

RFP-7-40
Questions and Answers

Q1: Is the vendor expected to provide the question and answer content or will it be provided by the State?

A1: The State intends to provide all question and answer content, but would be open to knowledgeable contributions by the vendor.

Q2: In different parts of the RFP, the simulation is described as being both CD/DVD-based, and web-based. Based on Indiana's stated preference to run it on their own servers and the need to integrate it with the Indiana LMS, it looks like a web-based simulation is Indiana's true intent. Is this correct? (Please note that delivery via CD/DVD may prevent SCORM compliance and/or LMS compatibility.)

A2: Yes.

Q3: If the intended format is, in fact, web-based, do we need to include the requested quote for 100 copies of a CD/DVD?

A3: Yes. The State is interested in quotes reflecting what it would take to put a version of the simulation on a CD/DVD.

Q4: The RFP refers to the simulation as incorporating up to seven roles. Have these roles been identified? What are they specifically?

A4: These roles have not yet been identified.

Q5: By our quick calculations, seven roles, implemented for thirteen scenario levels, and three difficulty settings, adds up to 273 distinct simulated situations. Does this match up with Indiana's vision, or did we misunderstand the description of the intended simulation?

A5: Yes. Please note that there may be less than seven roles and that there will likely be between three and five questions per scenario level per role. Note there are five levels proposed for Scenario I, four levels for Scenario II, and four levels for Scenario III.

Q6: The RFP states that this simulation should incorporate basic understanding and reinforcement of NIMS/ICS concepts. Will persons trained on the simulation have taken separate NIMS/ICS training? Or does the simulation need to incorporate baseline NIMS/ICS training?

A6: Assume that NIMS/ICS training will occur separately.

Q7: The RFP asks for costs to produce 30 second video clips and 30 second voice-over clips. Are these for a part of the simulation that has already been specified? If so, can we see those specifications? If not, what does Indiana hope to do with this information separate from the overall cost proposal?

A7: The State hopes to gain information on costs to enhance the simulation. Video or voice-over clips may be used to provide narrative for the scenarios or to address questions to the player, among other things. The clips are not for a part of the simulation that has already been specified.

Q8: We understand that the initial contract end date and launch date are August 30, 2007. Is it Indiana's intention that all of the specified levels be launched by that date? Or is the state open to a modular or phased approach?

A8: It is the State's intent that all specified levels be launched by that date.

Q9: Can Indiana share any information about their maximum budget or budgetary range? As described in the RFP, this simulation represents an enormous undertaking, and all respondents would benefit from knowing whether or not the expectations align with the funding allocation.

A9: No.

Q10: The RFP states "It is desired that the resulting simulation product become the property of the State of Indiana. This includes all code and documentation." Can Indiana provide more detail about its expectations? We interpret this to mean that Indiana wishes to retain ownership of all source code *unique to its application*, and not that it expects to gain rights over internal tools or third-party tools the vendor uses to develop that application. Is this interpretation accurate?

A10: Yes.

Q11: In Attachment D on page 1 under the Operating Environment section, it talks about passing the user ID to ISDH server. Will any additional authentication information be passed?

A11: No.

Q12: Does the state have any specific assistive technology that needs to be supported? e.g. A specific brand/product (DUAL Professional, <http://www.microsoft.com/enable/at/search.aspx?offid=624>) or a product type (screen readers, focus helpers, etc.)?

A12: The State requires compliance with all Indiana Office of Technology (IOT) standards, policies, and guidelines which are online at <http://www.iot.in.gov/architecture>.

Q13: Is there a specific Performance Testing tool that the state prefers to use?

A13: No.

Q14: The states timeline proposed on page 5 exceeds the completion date by two months. Will the project be extended by two months or will the proposed timeline be altered to hit the August deadline?

A14: The proposed timeline will be altered to conform with the August deadline.

Q15: In Attachment D, there is talk about a critical path and randomizing of situations. According to the document, the trainee can't continue to the next situation until they answer the question correctly in the current situation. Once they answer the question correctly, it is our understanding that the next situation is chosen randomly from a total pool of situations for that particular level / skill set. Is that correct? Please clarify.

A15: Yes. There is a hierarchical structure to the simulation consisting of role, skill set, scenario, and level. There are one or more levels in each scenario. Each level starts with a brief introduction to the level. Following the introduction, the player will see the first question based upon a random selection

from possible opening questions based upon role, skill set, and scenario. Based upon a correct answer, the next question will be randomly selected from a possible list of questions. This process continues until the last question in the level is asked. After answering the last question in the level, a recap of the lessons learned from the level are presented. The player can then stop play or proceed to the next level; if the next level is selected the cycle of introduction, questions, and recap are repeated. If this is the last level in the scenario, the player is given the option of terminating the simulation or selecting another scenario.

Q16: Based on that The Indiana State Department of Health will provide all content and subject matter expertise required for the situations. How many situations per level / skill set on average do you envision having for the three scenarios?

A16: Between three and five questions per level per skill set.

Q17: Do you envision supporting graphics and other assets for each situation or do you see the situations composed of a question and a set of answers only?

A17: The State envisions supporting graphics and other assets for each situation.

Q18: Do you envision having an introductory video for the beginning of every Level / skill set?

A18: The introduction to each level could be video, graphics, and/or text.

Q19: Where in the application do they expect SCORM to be used? Communicating the user's progress to LMS? The way the learning data within the simulation is stored and defined? Something else? All of the above?

A19: As applicable. Please see the definition of SCORM in the RFP.

Q20: Is state is willing to disclose any idea about the budget available for this project?

A20: No.

Q21: How many total users does the state expect to take use the simulation. And how many maximum simultaneous sessions does the state at any given time?

A21: Unknown. The State will be providing the server and database.

Q22: What percentage of connections to the system will be dial up and/or broadband?

A22: The State anticipates mostly broadband users, but dial-up connections to the Indiana Learning Content Management System (LMS) are not uncommon as some users access the LMS from home computers.

Q23: Is there a great model that you are envisioning this project to emulate?

A23: No.

Q24: Are there examples of this type of project from other states? If so, where?

A24: No.

Q25: Realistically speaking, can this project be awarded to an out of state company?

A25: Please carefully review sections 2.7 and 3.2 of the RFP for a discussion of Buy Indiana and the point allocation for this RFP. Please keep in mind that this is a phased evaluation and only those proposals that demonstrate strong Management Assessment/Quality and advantageous Pricing will advance to Step 3 for scoring of MWBE, Buy Indiana, and Indiana Economic Impact.

Q26: Has a similar project ever been done for the IDOA or ISDH? If so, we would like to obtain the RFP and winning proposal. Would you please advise the identifying information so that we may order copies, and also from which department we should order them.

A26: To the best of our knowledge, this is a brand new endeavor.